

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 14219 031514Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-14 AF-10 ACDA-12
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O 031507Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9905
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS CAIRO 14219

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT PGOV MASS EG
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF SADAT INTERVIEW WITH BBC

SUMMARY: PRESS JUNE 3 HIGHLIGHTS SADAT STATEMENTS TO BBC
THAT HE ASKED ARAFAT "TO BEHAVE" IN LEBANON; EGYPT SHOUL-
DERING FULL RESPONSIBILITY IN AFRICA; AND SOVIETS CAUSING
DAMAGE IN AFRICA BUT EGYPT READY FOR "BALANCED" RELATIONS
WITH USSR. REMARKS ABOUT PEACE PROCESS NOT NEW. END
SUMMARY.

1. LEBANON: HEADLINES JUNE 3 HIGHLIGHT SADAT STATEMENT
THAT HE SENT ARAFAT A TELEGRAM "FOR FIRST TIME SINCE
INITIATIVE" URGING ARAFAT "BEHAVE HIMSELF" IN ORDER NOT TO
GIVE ISRAELI PRETEXT TO REMAIN IN SOUTH LEBANON. SADAT
CLAIMED EGYPT IS "BEHIND CHANGE IN AMERICAN ATTITUDE
TOWARDS LEBANON" AND REFERRED TO HIS CONTACTS WITH PRESI-
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DENT CARTER BEFORE US PRESENTED DRAFT UNSC RESOLUTION
CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL.

2. AFRICA: SADAT PROCLAIMS EGYPT SHOULDERING "FULL RE-
SPONSIBILITY" TOWARD AFRICA BUT TIME HAD NOT YET COME TO
REVEAL EXTENT OF EGYPTIAN COMMITMENT THERE. EGYPT ONE
OF SOVIET TARGETS IN AFRICA; SOVIET UNION CAUSING DAMAGE

IN AFRICA AND EGYPT "WOULD NOT BE SLOW IN DEFENDING ITS TERRITORIES AND ITS LINES OF COMMUNICATION.

3. PEACE EFFORTS: SADAT REPEATED FAMILIAR THEMES: INITIATIVE NOT DEADLOCKED, EGYPT READY TO DISCUSS ANY NEW ISRAELI PROPOSALS, AND U.S. AIRCRAFT PACKAGE POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT AND APPRECIATED. ASKED ABOUT "NEW EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS" (ON RETURN WB/GAZA), SADAT SAID PROPOSALS ARE INCLUDED IN RESOLUTION 242".

4. SOVIET UNION: DESPITE CRITICISM OF SOVIETS IN AFRICA SADAT REITERATED EGYPT READY TO ESTABLISH "BALANCED" RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS BUT USSR MUST UNDERSTAND THAT EGYPT HAS INDEPENDENT WILL. THERE SHOULD BE NO INTERFERENCE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. SOVIETS REFUSED RESCHEDULE EGYPT'S DEBTS AND REFUSED EGYPT GRACE PERIOD FOR MILITARY DEBTS. NEVERTHELESS, EGYPT PAYING BACK DEBTS ANNUALLY. MATTHEWS

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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PGOV, MASS, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR)
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